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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7219

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 000074

SIPDIS

OES FOR NELSON/KASTENBERG/LARSEN  
ALSO FOR S/SECC, NEA/MAG, AND NEA/RA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/29/2020  
TAGS: [ENRG](#) [KGHG](#) [SENV](#) [PREL](#) [TS](#)  
SUBJECT: TUNISIA WILL NOT ASSOCIATE WITH COPENHAGEN ACCORD  
BEFORE JANUARY 31

REF: A. TUNIS 33  
[1](#)B. STATE 3080

Classified by Ambassador Gordon Gray for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) On January 29, the Ambassador raised the Copenhagen Accord with Minister of Environment Nadhir Hamada, reiterating the request made on January 15 (ref A) for Tunisia to associate itself with the Accord. Hamada replied that due to Tunisia's desire to coordinate its response with other countries in the region and with the G-77, its decision on whether to associate with the Copenhagen Accord would be taken after January 31.

[1](#)2. (C) Comment: Based on Minister Hamada's comments, it is clear that Tunisia takes an active interest in climate change. The minister told us he attended President Obama's speech at Copenhagen, as well as most other major speeches and sessions that went late into the night. He expressed strong views on the need for global action and on what he called the mixed results of the Copenhagen conference, making special reference to the unhelpful positions of China and Mexico. Traditional Tunisian caution on multilateral issues, combined with its stated need for inter-agency consultation (ref A), make it unlikely that Tunisia will act quickly. End comment.

GRAY